Application/Control Number: 09/889,137

Art Unit: 2174

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Catherine Voorhees on 4/09/2009.

The application has been amended as follows:

Cancel claims 43 and 44.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

In regards to independent claims 21, 27, 30 and 40-42, the prior art found does not teach "the pointing device is operable to: take precedence over the remote signaling devices; and selectively enable each remote signaling device, and the device onto which an image is projected from the projector is a communication hub of the system, arranged to: request information from each remote signaling device in turn, by polling; receive control signals from the pointing device and the plurality of remote signaling devices; and transmit the control signals from the pointing device and the plurality of remote signaling devices to the computing means on a single communications link, which link is capable of conveying signals both from the pointing device and the remote

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signaling devices, in order to control an image on the device onto which an image is projected from the projector" in combination with all of the other claim limitations.

In regards to independent claims 34-39, the prior art found does not specifically teach, "the pointing device is operable to: take precedence over the remote signaling devices; and selectively enable each remote signaling device, and the device onto which an image is projected from the projector is a communication hub of the system, arranged to: receive control signals from the pointing device and the plurality of remote signaling devices; and transmit the control signals from the pointing device and the plurality of remote signaling devices to the computing means on a single communications link, which link is capable of conveying signals both from the pointing device and the remote signaling devices, in order to control an image on the device onto which an image is projected from the projector," in combination with all of the other claim limitations.

All dependent claims are allowable by virtue of their dependence on allowable independent claims.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

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Inquiry

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to BORIS PESIN whose telephone number is (571)272-4070. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday except every other Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Stephen Hong can be reached on (571) 272-4124. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.